

The Kab-Ash Trail passes through some of the highest topography of the park. The glacially exposed granitic rock outcrops of the Vermilion Batholith form the backbone of the eastern portion of the trail from Ash River west over a series of long ridge systems south of Sullivan, Blind Ash, Nebraska, and Daley Bays of Kabetogama Lake. There are four loop systems that work the ridge tops.



Photo credit: Jim Hill

Much of the east portion of the trail supports jack, red and white pine communities mixed with northern bur oak stands. The trail goes through low areas where ridges sharply end only shortly to rise up on the next ridge. The gaps of lower areas are covered with spruce, fir, cedar stands, beaver ponds, and meadows.

Birding is exciting at this trail because the forest is quite open along much of it. Species like hermit and Swainson's thrushes, ruby and golden-crowned kinglets, scarlet tanagers, dark-eyed juncos, blue-headed and red-eyed vireos, red-breasted nuthatches, pine, Blackburnian, black-throated green, and yellow-rumped warblers can be clearly visible near the tree tops.

When at the trail section near the Beaver Pond Overlook birders may view or hear tree swallows, eastern kingbirds common yellowthroat, swamp and song sparrows, red-winged blackbirds, pied-billed grebes, mallards, wood duck, blue-winged teal, ring-necked ducks, great blue herons, American bittern, sedge wren and possibly a sora rail.

Bird rank indicates their abundance during all years of monitoring on this scale:

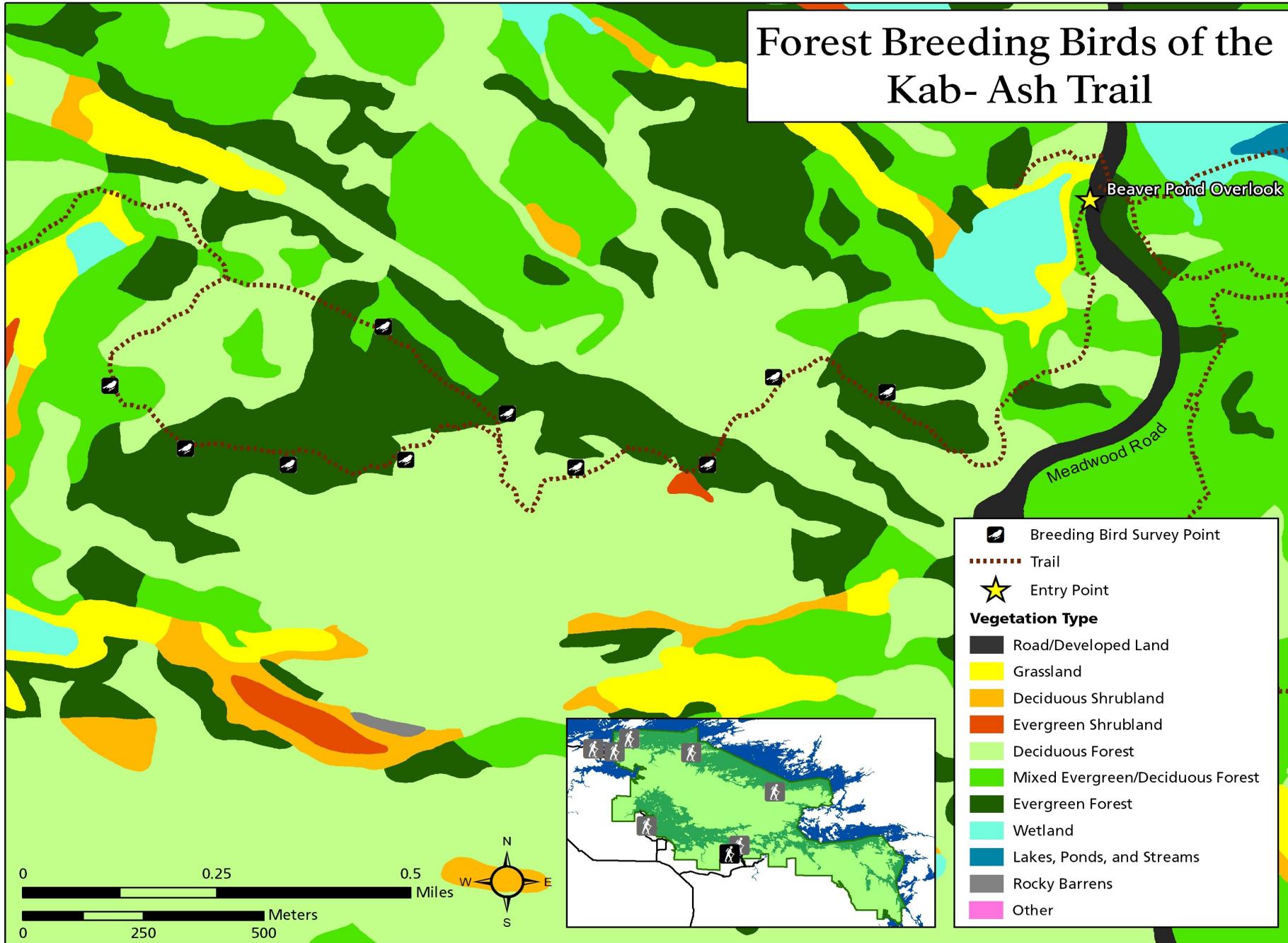
- A = abundant to most abundant
- C = common
- U = uncommon
- R = rare to least abundant

Kab-Ash Trail Checklist

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>SPECIES NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>
Herons, Bitterns, & Allies		
○	Great Blue Heron	U
Hawks & Eagles		
○	Broad-winged Hawk	U
Cuckoos		
○	Black-billed Cuckoo	R
Hummingbirds		
○	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U
Woodpeckers		
○	Downy Woodpecker	U
○	Northern Flicker	U
○	Pileated Woodpecker	U
○	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U
Tyrant Flycatcher		
○	Eastern Wood Pewee	U
○	Least Flycatcher	C
Vireos		
○	Blue-headed Vireo	U
○	Red-eyed Vireo	C
Jays & Crows		
○	American Crow	U
○	Blue Jay	U
○	Gray Jay	U
Chickadees		
○	Black-capped Chickadee	U

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>SPECIES NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>
Nuthatches		
○	Red-breasted Nuthatch	C
Creepers		
○	Brown Creeper	U
Wrens		
○	Winter Wren	U
Kinglets		
○	Golden-crowned Kinglet	U
Thrushes		
○	American Robin	U
○	Hermit Thrush	A
○	Veery	U
Waxwings		
○	Cedar Waxwing	C
Wood-Warblers		
○	Black and White Warbler	U
○	Blackburnian Warbler	U
○	Black-throated Green Warbler	C
○	Canada Warbler	U
○	Chestnut-sided Warbler	U
○	Magnolia Warbler	U
○	Nashville Warbler	A
○	Northern Parula	U
○	Ovenbird	A
○	Pine Warbler	U
○	Yellow-rumped Warbler	U
Tanagers		
○	Scarlet Tanager	U
Sparrows & Allies		
○	Chipping Sparrow	C
○	Dark-eyed Junco	U
○	White-throated Sparrow	U
Finches		
○	American Goldfinch	U
○	Evening Grosbeak	U
○	Purple Finch	U





Forest Breeding Birds Kab-Ash Trail



The beaver pond overlook

The Kab-Ash Trail has many birds for viewing—usually in June. The species listed in this brochure have been heard or spotted since 2004.

When hiking this trail visitors should remember the area is covered in thick vegetation and can be hard to follow at times. Be prepared for ticks, mosquitoes, and wet areas.

To get to the Kab-Ash Trail visitors enter from four locations along the Ash River Trail road or the visitor center road. **Compasses and good topographical maps are a must on this trail system.**